Study by BSE on Foreign Institutional Investors

2875. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a newspaper report concerning a study by the Bombay Stock Exchange on the activities of foreign institutional investors;

(b) whether this study has expressed serious misgivings on the impact of the activities of such external investors on the operation of our stock exchanges; and

(c) whether Government propose to introduce certain safeguards to allay the apprehension felt by the Bombay Stock Exchange?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to an analysis of the Stock Exchange, Mumbai there was a sympathetic movement of the sensitive index of share prices and net investments by Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) in the Exchange during period February—July, 1996.

(c) The Policy guidelines of the Government and SEBI (FIIs) Regulations prescribe investment limits by FIIs in the Indian securities markets. There is no proposal, at present, to introduce any changes in this regard.

Role of Public Financial Institutions in Escorts Merger

2876. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pelased to state:

(a) whether Government have called for clarifications from Public Financial Institutions over their role on merger of Escorts Tractors Limited with Facorts Limited finalised in March'96;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the merger will affect the investment rights of small investors in any way; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent premissible under the rule.

अंडों के उपभोग के कारण कैंसर होने की संभावना

2877. **श्री दिलीप सिंह जूदेव:** क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान दिनांक 13 सितम्बर, 1994 की दैनिक समाचार-पत्र "हिन्दुस्तान" में "अण्डों से कैंसर की संभावना" शीर्षक से प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है, जिसमें पोषण विशेषज्ञ, डा. पी. सी. सेन के कथन को इसके समर्थन में उद्धृत किया गया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने अंडों की उपयोगिता एवं उनके हानिकर प्रभाव के संबंध में अंतिम निष्कर्ष निकाला है, यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या सरकार संचार माध्यमों से अण्डों के उपयोग संबंधी किए जा रहे प्रचार को रोकने और इसके उपयोग को सीमित करने के संबंध में जागरुकता लाने के लिए कोई कार्रवाई करने का विचार रखती है, और

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री सलीम इकबाल शेरवानी): (क) जी, हां।

(ख) से (घ) ऐसा कोई ठोस प्रमाण उपलब्ध नहीं है कि अण्डे खाने से कैंसर हो जाता है।

Construction of 2 Star Hotels in backward areas

2878. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no incentive are offered for construction of 2 star hotels in backward areas;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps are proposed to encourage 2 other hotels in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) to (c) No, Sir.

The Central Department of Tourism offers 3% interest subsidy to approved hotel projects of two star category through various financial institutions. In case of approved hotel projects on the identified Travel circuits/destinations, 5% interest subsidy is provided.